

## **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace paragraph 34 with the following re-written version:

**[0034]** The transport chamber 2 is float-mounted in the rack 7 via flexible bearing elements 13 for the accurately positioned coupling of the transport chamber 2 to the treatment chamber ~~2-50~~ serving as an matching module. Due to this floating position, the transport chamber 2 is arranged in a movable fashion at a level running horizontally relative to the rack ~~9-7~~ so that the position- and bearing imprecision between the transport chamber 2 on the one hand and the treatment chamber 50 on the other hand can be equalized. A safe docking, meaning a safe vacuum tight coupling of the transport chamber 2 to the matching module, can thus be guaranteed advantageously. A centralizing device for the support of the coupling process can be provided that can be mounted either on the matching module or on the transport chamber 2.

Please replace paragraph 32 with the following re-written version:

**[0032]** A hermetically closing loading door is located at the front side of the transport chamber 2 that can be raised vertically through in this case a hydraulic drive, which also could be actuated by an electrical or pneumatic drive depending on the application. For opening or closing, the loading door is moved in a double-walled portal 11 where a clamping device in form of a clamp ~~11-12~~ is located at the side turning away from the transport chamber 2. The carriage 3 of the device 1 equipped with wheels 4 is actuated by an electric motor 6 starting and braking jerk-free via a converter-6, preferably a geared motor. The traveling speed that permits a positioning accuracy of approximately 1 mm of the carriage 3 that is freely running in all directions and rotating on the spot ranges only from 0.01 m/sec and 0.03 m/sec, making additional safety measures such as a grid arrangement dispensable. Safety devices are provided at the front and rear end of the carriage 3 in order to trigger an emergency stop upon striking an obstacle.

Please replace paragraph 33 with the following re-written version:

**[0033]** The rails arranged on the carriage 3 serve for the relative mobility of the transport

chamber 2 in reference to the carriage ~~23~~, whereby a mobility of approximately 200 mm of the transport chamber 2 is possible. Here the transport chamber is moved by a hydraulic cylinder that is not shown.

Please replace paragraph 41 with the following re-written version:

**[0041]** Figure 5 shows an example of a facility where the described device 1 is used according to the Figures 1 to 3. On both sides of the device 1, a number of different treatment chambers 50 are assembled on both sides of the device 1, whereby a vacuum preheating chamber ~~58~~50a, negative pressure carburization chamber 50b, diffusion chamber 50c, and the gas tempering chamber 50d, or alternatively, an oil or saline bath tempering chamber are provided.